

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
16 June 2005 (16.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/055008 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A61B 5/05, 8/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/039747

(22) International Filing Date:
26 November 2004 (26.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/525,603 26 November 2003 (26.11.2003) US
60/617,559 9 October 2004 (09.10.2004) US

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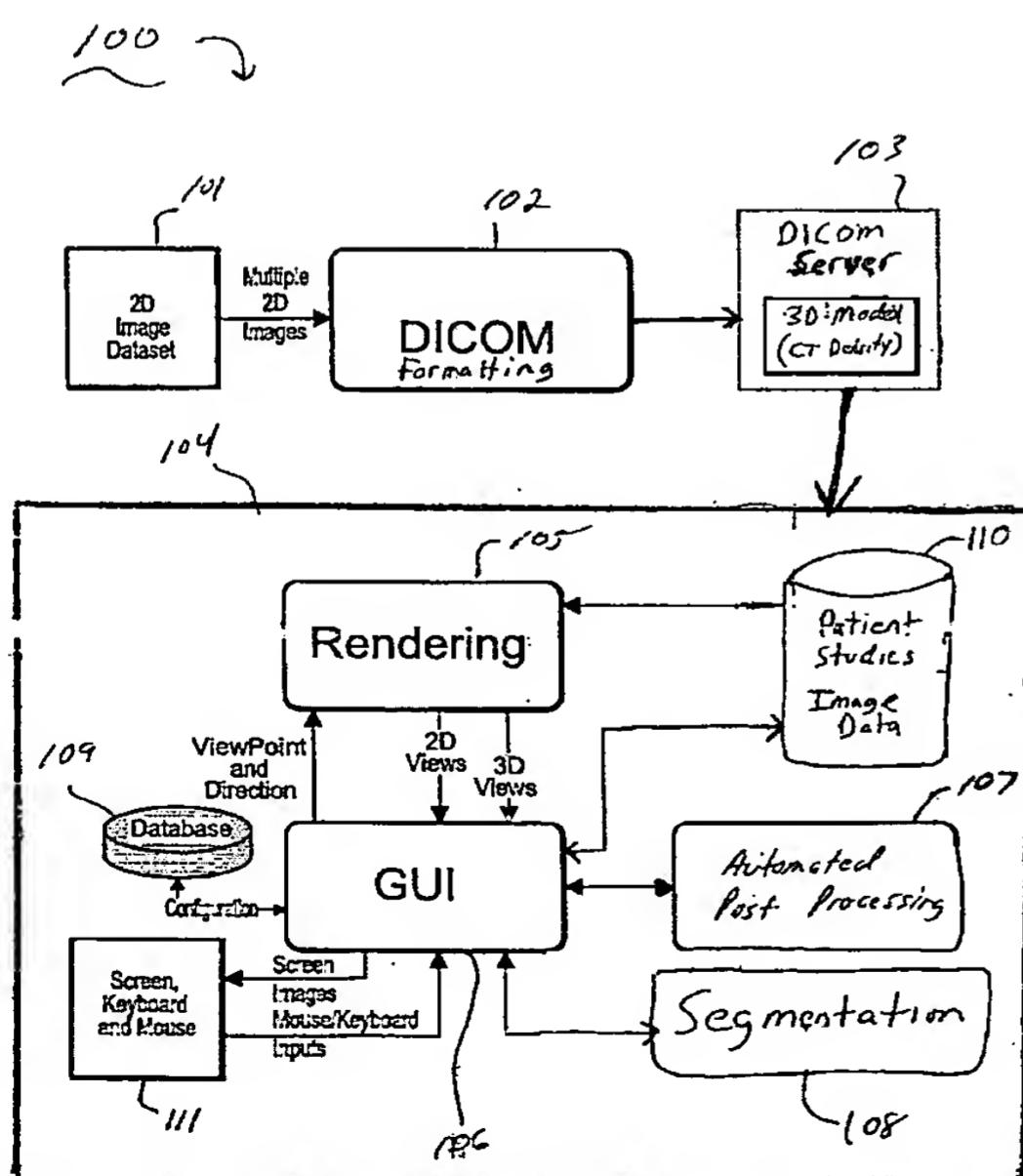
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUTOMATED SEGMENTATION, VISUALIZATION AND ANALYSIS OF MEDICAL IMAGES



(57) Abstract: An imaging system for automated segmentation and visualization of medical images (100) includes an image processing module (107) for automatically processing image data using a set of directives (109) to identify a target object in the image data and process the image data according to a specified protocol, a rendering module (105) for automatically generating one or more images of the target object based on one or more of the directives (109) and a digital archive (110) for storing the one or more generated images. The image data may be DICOM-formatted image data (103), wherein the imaging processing module (107) extracts and processes meta-data in DICOM fields of the image data to identify the target object. The image processing module (107) directs a segmentation module (108) to segment the target object using processing parameters specified by one or more of the directives (109).



ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

25 August 2005

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/39747

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 5/05, 8/00
US CL : 600/407, 437

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/407-472; 128/916, 922; 705/2; 707/1; 382/128, 132; 345/733-740, 760, 800, 807, 846

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,529,757 B1 (PATEL et al) 04 March 2003 (04.03.2003), entire document.	1-8
A	US 6,603,494 B1 (BANKS et al) 05 August 2003 (05.08.2003), entire document.	1-8

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 May 2005 (14.05.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

06 JUN 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

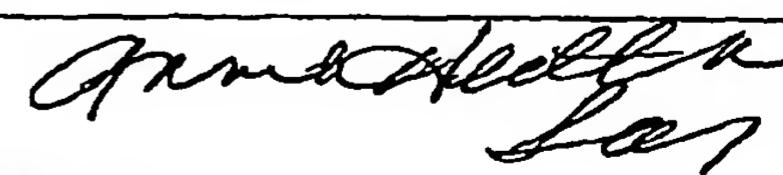
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US04/39747

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
EAST
search terms: image processing, dicom, digital archive, automatic, protocol